

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for controlling environment maintenance equipment comprising:

a plurality of interface control servers for controlling environment maintenance devices;

a client for communicating with said interface control servers; and

a messaging control at said client and at each of said plurality of interface control servers for exchanging messages between said client and each of said plurality of interface control servers.

2. The system of claim 1 wherein environment maintenance devices are selected from the group consisting of irrigation sprinklers and controllers, weather stations, constant pressure pumpstations, compressor stations, water supply pumpstations, sewage controllers, snow guns and controllers, mowers, chair lifts, and snow grooming vehicles.

3. The system of claim 1 wherein said client is operational at a device selected from the group consisting of personal computers, laptop computers, touch-screen computers, telephones, radios, and personal digital assistants.

4. The system of claim 1 wherein messages exchanged between said client and each of said plurality of interface control servers are text messages.

5. The system of claim 1 further comprising a system control and data acquisition control at said client for interacting with said interface control servers.

6. The system of claim 1 wherein messages are exchanged between said messaging controls in accordance with TCP/IP protocol.

7. The system of claim 1 further comprising a site manager for registering said messaging

controls.

8. The system of claim 1 wherein said client and said interface control server operate in different domains.

9. A method for controlling environment maintenance equipment comprising the steps of:

connecting an interface control server to an environment maintenance device;

installing a first message control at said interface control server;

installing a second message control at a client;

entering a message at said client;

communicating said message from said client to said interface control server in accordance with said first message control and said second message control; and

controlling said environment maintenance device at said interface control server in accordance with said message.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein said environment maintenance device is selected from the group consisting of irrigation sprinklers and controllers, weather stations, constant pressure pumpstations, compressor stations, water supply pumpstations, sewage controllers, snow guns and controllers, mowers, chair lifts, and snow grooming vehicles.

11. The method of claim 9 wherein said client is operational at a device selected from the group consisting of personal computers, laptop computers, touch-screen computers, telephones, radios, and personal digital assistants.

12. The method of claim 9 wherein said message exchanged between said client and said interface control server is a text message.

13. The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of installing a system control and data

acquisition control at said client for interacting with said interface control server.

14. The method of claim 9 wherein said message is exchanged between said first and second messaging control in accordance with TCP/IP protocol.

15. The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of registering said first and second message controls with a site manager.

16. The method of claim 8 wherein said interface control server is in a first domain and said client is in a second domain.

17. An apparatus for controlling an environment maintenance device, comprising:

an interface control server adapted for communication with said environment maintenance device;

a messaging control at said interface control server for receiving messages from a client; and

a connection between said interface control server and said environment maintenance device, said connection adapted for communicating a command to said environment maintenance device in accordance with a message from said client.

18. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein said environment maintenance device is selected from the group consisting of irrigation sprinklers and controllers, weather stations, constant pressure pumpstations, compressor stations, water supply pumpstations, sewage controllers, snow guns and controllers, mowers, chair lifts, and snow grooming vehicles.

19. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein said message received at said interface control server is a text message.

20. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein said message received at said interface control server is

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received in accordance with TCP/IP protocol.

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